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Alabama
Department of
Postsecondary Education

Representing Alabama's Public Two-Year College System

Jefferson State Community College

THR 131
Acting Techniques I

- I. THR 131 Acting Techniques I – 3 Semester Hours; Contact Hours – 1 Lecture & 2 Activity**
- II. Course Description**
This course is the first of a two-course sequence in which the student will focus on the development of the performance instrument in acting emphasizing body movement, voice production, articulation, characterization principles of motivation, scene analysis, cultural empathy through standard theatre games, exercises, monologues, scenes and the background research thereof.
- III. Prerequisite**
None
- IV. Textbook**
Direction for the Theatre, Sievers. Current edition.
- V. General Course Competencies:**
 - A. The student will demonstrate knowledge of theatrical nomenclature
 - B. The student will demonstrate understanding on how to express the emotions necessary to create an effective character in a play
 - C. The student will demonstrate knowledge of body and vocal disciplines necessary to create a convincing and effective character in a play
 - D. Students will demonstrate understanding on how to express the emotions necessary to create an effective character in a student performed monologue.
 - E. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the body and vocal disciplines necessary to create a convincing character in a performance.

VI. Course Objective Stated in Performance Terms:

During the course, the student will do the following under the guidance of the instructor:

- A. The student will demonstrate knowledge of theatrical nomenclature.
 - 1. Student will understand knowledge of the names of stage positions and directions.
 - 2. Student will understand knowledge of the names of theatrical equipment.
- B. The student will demonstrate understanding of how to express the emotions necessary to create an effective character in a play by:
 - 1. Participating in improvisational scenes
 - 2. Participating in sense-memory exercises
 - 3. Interpreting a character's lines from specified plays
 - 4. Discussing in class the motivation and stimulation of a character's actions within the context of a specified play
- C. The student will demonstrate knowledge of body and vocal disciplines necessary to create a convincing and effective character in a play by:
 - 1. Participating in vocal exercises in class
 - 2. Participating in movement exercises in class
- D. Students will demonstrate understanding of how to express the emotions necessary to create an effective character in a student performed monologue.
- E. Students will demonstrate knowledge of body and vocal disciplines necessary to create a convincing character in a performance.

VII. Class Activities

- A. Discussion
- B. Pantomime and physical exercises
- C. Role play; Scene and Play reading
- D. Vocal exercises
- E. Attendance at amateur or professional theatrical performances
- F. Examination

VIII. Evaluation

To complete this course, the student must be able, in the instructor's judgment, to demonstrate a reasonable mastery of the course objectives through class assignments and exams. A grade of "C" or better is required for passing or for transfer credit.

Grading Scale

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = 59% and below

The minimum penalty for a plagiarized assignment or exam will be a zero for that assignment. Refer to the College Catalog and Student Handbook for a list of violations to the Academic Honesty Code and additional penalties which may be imposed.

IX. Attendance

Class attendance is an essential part of the educational process at Jefferson State, and students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered to facilitate their academic success. In general, academic performance is impacted by the number of classes a student attends. Financial Aid and other scholarship programs may require stringent attendance. Student absences in all courses (traditional, hybrid, online, etc.) are calculated from the first official day of class. Attendance in Internet and/or Hybrid courses is based on documentable participation in class activities, such as interacting with the instructor and with enrolled students, attending required on-campus meetings and/or submitting course assignments. If a student has excessive absences and is in jeopardy of failing the course, she/he is encouraged to consult with the instructor. Instructors will not withdraw students for any reason. If a student fails to officially withdraw from a course, this failure could result in a grade of "F". Students receiving financial aid or scholarships should consult the Financial Aid Department or their scholarship coordinator to determine how an "F" or "W" may affect their tuition assistance. Students withdrawing from a course after the Withdrawal date has passed will receive a WP (withdraw passing) or a WF (withdraw failing) in the course.

X. Statement on Discrimination/Harassment

The College and the Alabama State Board of Education are committed to providing both employment and educational environments free of harassment or discrimination related to an individual's race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, or disability. Such harassment is a violation of State Board of Education policy. Any practice or behavior that constitutes harassment or discrimination will not be tolerated.

XI. Americans with Disabilities

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 state that qualified students with disabilities who meet the essential functions and academic requirements are entitled to reasonable accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to provide appropriate disability documentation to the College.

XII. Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Direct assessments will be made in accordance with the current class Student Learning Outcomes (SLO). This assessment will not be used to figure grades for the class, but will be used to determine class success within current SLO addressed areas. Direct assessment SLO will change every three year cycle.